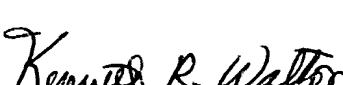


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| U. S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE | | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER ITT0070P |
| TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 | | U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/579509 |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP2004/013067 | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE November 17, 2004 | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED November 20, 2003 |
| TITLE OF INVENTION PPAR AGONISTS FOR THE TREATMENT OF HCV INFECTION | | |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Ricardo Cortese, Alfredo Nicosia and Alessandra Vitelli | | |
| <p>Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures [35 U.S.C. 371(f)]. The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below. 4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (PCT Article 31). 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed [35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)] <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed [35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)]. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 [35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)]. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 [35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)]. 9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) [35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)]. 10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 [35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)]. <p>Items 11 to 20 below concern other document(s) or information included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment. 14. <input type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76. 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825. 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C.154(d)(4). 19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C.154(d)(4). 20. <input type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: | | |

SEARCH RESULTS 16 MAY 2006

Substitute for PTO-1390 (Rev. 07-2005) "Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office(DO/EO/US)Concerning a Submission Under 35 U.S.C. 371"
Approved for use through 3/31/2007 OMB 0651-0021

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|---|-------------------------------|---|--|
| U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER | |
| 10/579509 PCT/EP2004/013067 | | ITT0070P | |
| The following fees are submitted: | | CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY | |
| 21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic national fee.....\$300 | | \$300.00 | |
| 22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee (37 CFR 1.492(c)) If the written opinion prepared by ISA/US or the international preliminary examination report prepared by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4).....\$0 All other situations.....\$200 | | | |
| 23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee (37 CFR 1.492(b)) If the written opinion of the ISA/US or the international preliminary examination report prepared by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4).....\$0 Search fee [37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)] has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority.....\$100 International Search Report prepared by an ISA other than the US and provided to the Office or previously communicated to the US by the IB\$400 All other situations.....\$500 | | \$200.00 | |
| | | TOTAL OF 21, 22 and 23= | |
| | | \$900.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof. | | | |
| Total Sheets | Extra Sheets | Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number) | |
| 15 - 100 = | 0 /50 | 0 = 0 | |
| | | X \$250.00 | |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date [37 CFR 1.492(e)]. | | \$0.00 | |
| CLAIMS | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA | |
| Total Claims | 20 - 20 = | 0 | |
| Independent Claims | 4 - 3 = | 1 | |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable) | | + \$360.00 | |
| TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS (SUBTOTAL) | | = \$1,100.00 | |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)). | | + \$0.00 | |
| TOTAL NATIONAL FEE | | = \$1,100.00 | |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment [37 CFR 1.21(h)]. The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31) \$40.00 per property. | | + \$40.00 | |
| TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED | | = \$1,100.00 | |
| | | Amount to be refunded: | |
| | | Amount to be charged: | |
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed. | | | |
| b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>13-2755</u> in the amount of <u>\$1,100.00</u> to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. | | | |
| c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account No. <u>13-2755</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. | | | |
| NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive [37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)] must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status. | | | |
| SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: | | | |
| Customer No. 000210 | | | |
| MERCK & CO., INC. Patent Department, RY60-30 P.O. Box 2000 126 East Lincoln Avenue Rahway, New Jersey 07065-0970 | | | |
|  SIGNATURE | | | |
| Kenneth R. Walton NAME | | | |
| 32,951 REGISTRATION NUMBER | | | |

10/50/5009

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 16 MAY 2006

**Page 1A of TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING
A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371**

Attorney Docket No.: ITT0070P

International Appln No.: PCT/EP2004/013067

International Filing Date: November 17, 2004

Priority Date: November 20, 2003

Title: PPAR AGONISTS FOR THE TREATMENT OF HCV
INFECTION

Inventors: Ricardo Cortese, Alfredo Nicosia and Alessandra Vitelli

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

DATE OF DEPOSIT May 16, 2006

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV422535649US

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS
EXPRESS MAIL "POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" ON THE ABOVE
DATE IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR
PATENTS P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450.

MAILED BY

Christine Caffe

DATE 5-16-06